



AGAWAM

Hampden County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Agawam is a place of tradition and of opportunity. A convenient location, affordable land and buildings, and a low tax rate allow residents to build good lives and attract those who wish to buy a home or start a business. The highway system and nearby airport link Agawam to the surrounding region's many opportunities.

From the town's rural past, the community has retained a sense of being a small town where people participate in civic activities, school affairs and sports events. Many recreational opportunities are offered at the State Park and neighboring golf courses. The physical setting of Agawam, traditional farm fields, historic homes and village centers, with the natural location of the town including mountains, rivers, streams and wetlands, retain an appealing sense of quiet open space.

A good place to raise children, with its family values and good schools, Agawam is also a good safe place to enjoy retirement years.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Suffield, Connecticut, on the south; Southwick and Westfield on the west; and West Springfield on the north. The Connecticut River separates Agawam from Springfield on the northeast and from Longmeadow on the east. Agawam is 94 miles southwest of Boston; 21 miles north of Hartford, Connecticut; and 131 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 24.23 sq. miles

Land Area: 23.24 sq. miles

Population: 27,323

Density: 1,176 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Springfield Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....74.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.9"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

West Springfield, Springfield South

Regional Planning Agency

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Springfield



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 786-0400

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Mayor - Council

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1855

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
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Total Registered 15,448

Democrats 5,600 36.3 % Republicans 2,150 13.9 % Other parties 7 0.0 % Unenrolled Voters 7,691 49.8 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Agawam city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	28,144	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	28,144	100.0
Male.....	13,369	47.5	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	514	1.8
Female.....	14,775	52.5	Mexican.....	47	0.2
Under 5 years.....	1,560	5.5	Puerto Rican.....	266	0.9
5 to 9 years.....	1,725	6.1	Cuban.....	19	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,840	6.5	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	182	0.6
15 to 19 years.....	1,717	6.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	27,630	98.2
20 to 24 years.....	1,191	4.2	White alone.....	26,871	95.5
25 to 34 years.....	3,556	12.6	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	4,796	17.0	Total population.....	28,144	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	4,339	15.4	In households.....	27,418	97.4
55 to 59 years.....	1,614	5.7	Householder.....	11,260	40.0
60 to 64 years.....	1,103	3.9	Spouse.....	6,009	21.4
65 to 74 years.....	2,072	7.4	Child.....	8,022	28.5
75 to 84 years.....	1,818	6.5	Own child under 18 years.....	5,803	20.6
85 years and over.....	813	2.9	Other relatives.....	999	3.5
Median age (years).....	40.3	(X)	Under 18 years.....	312	1.1
18 years and over.....	21,931	77.9	Nonrelatives.....	1,128	4.0
Male.....	10,197	36.2	Unmarried partner.....	560	2.0
Female.....	11,734	41.7	In group quarters.....	726	2.6
21 years and over.....	21,066	74.8	Institutionalized population.....	726	2.6
62 years and over.....	5,363	19.1	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	4,703	16.7	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,756	6.2	Total households.....	11,260	100.0
Female.....	2,947	10.5	Family households (families).....	7,462	66.3
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,252	28.9
One race.....	27,920	99.2	Married-couple family.....	6,009	53.4
White.....	27,217	96.7	With own children under 18 years.....	2,544	22.6
Black or African American.....	257	0.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	1,104	9.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	48	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	567	5.0
Asian.....	275	1.0	Nonfamily households.....	3,798	33.7
Asian Indian.....	89	0.3	Householder living alone.....	3,157	28.0
Chinese.....	53	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	1,275	11.3
Filipino.....	10	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	3,481	30.9
Japanese.....	27	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	3,043	27.0
Korean.....	47	0.2	Average household size.....	2.43	(X)
Vietnamese.....	23	0.1	Average family size.....	3.01	(X)
Other Asian ¹	26	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	11,659	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	11,260	96.6
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	399	3.4
Samoan.....	2	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	71	0.6
Some other race.....	120	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.8	(X)
Two or more races.....	224	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	4.2	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:</i> ³			Occupied housing units.....	11,260	100.0
White.....	27,424	97.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	8,288	73.6
Black or African American.....	307	1.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	2,972	26.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	116	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.63	(X)
Asian.....	306	1.1	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.90	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	16	0.1			
Some other race.....	211	0.7			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:

Conventional Federal:

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:

Federal (Section 8):



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Agawam is located in the Pioneer Valley, known as the crossroads of New England because of its strategic position along the Connecticut River and its excellent transportation facilities. The Massachusetts Turnpike connects the region to Boston and to Albany, New York. Interstate 91 provides direct access to Hartford, Connecticut, and to Brattleboro and points north in Vermont.

Major Highways

The principal highways are State Routes 75 and 187, which run N-S and connect Agawam to the Springfield area, and State Route 57, which runs E-W across the southern Berkshire region.

Rail

Passenger rail service to Boston, Montreal, Hartford, New York, and all other points on the Amtrak network is available through nearby Springfield.

Bus

Agawam is a member of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA), which provides fixed route service between Agawam and Springfield. The PVTA also offers paratransit services for the elderly and disabled through the Council on Aging. Peter Pan Bus Lines offers service from Agawam to Springfield and to Bradley Airport in CT.

Other

Barnes Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility in Westfield, has a 5,000'x 100' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-Precision. Scheduled passenger service is available from Bradley Field in Windsor Locks, Connecticut. Agawam-Springfield Heliport and Seaplane Base.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

None

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Heritage Hall East Nursing Home

Heritage Hall North Nursing Home

Heritage Hall South Nursing Home

Heritage Hall West Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.